

(2) a detailed description of—  
(A) the projects supported by those grants; and

(B) the outcomes of those projects;  
(3) a description of the improvements in technology, environmental benefits, resources conserved, efficiencies, and other benefits of the projects funded under this section;

(4) recommendations for improvements to promote and support new and emerging, but proven, stormwater control infrastructure, including research into new and emerging technologies, for the centers, grants, and activities under this section; and

(5) a description of existing challenges concerning the use of new and emerging, but proven, stormwater control infrastructure.

**(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—**

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section (except for subsection (b)) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

(2) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made available for grants under paragraph (1), not more than 2 percent may be used to pay the administrative costs of the Administrator.

**SEC. 218. WATER REUSE INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall establish a Water Reuse Interagency Working Group (referred to in this section as the “Working Group”).

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Working Group is to develop and coordinate actions, tools, and resources to advance water reuse across the United States, including through the implementation of the February 2020 National Water Reuse Action Plan, which creates opportunities for water reuse in the mission areas of each of the Federal agencies included in the Working Group under subsection (c) (referred to in this section as the “Action Plan”).

(c) CHAIRPERSON; MEMBERSHIP.—The Working Group shall be—

(1) chaired by the Administrator; and  
(2) comprised of senior representatives from such Federal agencies as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(d) DUTIES OF THE WORKING GROUP.—In carrying out this section, the Working Group shall—

(1) with respect to water reuse, leverage the expertise of industry, the research community, nongovernmental organizations, and government;

(2) seek to foster water reuse as an important component of integrated water resources management;

(3) conduct an assessment of new opportunities to advance water reuse and annually update the Action Plan with new actions, as necessary, to pursue those opportunities;

(4) seek to coordinate Federal programs and policies to support the adoption of water reuse;

(5) consider how each Federal agency can explore and identify opportunities to support water reuse through the programs and activities of that Federal agency; and

(6) consult, on a regular basis, with representatives of relevant industries, the research community, and nongovernmental organizations.

(e) REPORT.—Not less frequently than once every 2 years, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report on the activities and findings of the Working Group.

**(f) SUNSET.—**

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Working Group shall terminate on the date that is 6 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) EXTENSION.—The Administrator may extend the date of termination of the Working Group under paragraph (1).

**SEC. 219. ADVANCED CLEAN WATER TECHNOLOGIES STUDY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall carry out a study that examines the state of existing and potential future technology, including technology that could address cybersecurity vulnerabilities, that enhances or could enhance the treatment, monitoring, affordability, efficiency, and safety of wastewater services provided by a treatment works (as defined in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292)).

(b) REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study under subsection (a).

**SEC. 220. CLEAN WATERSHEDS NEEDS SURVEY.**

Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 609. CLEAN WATERSHEDS NEEDS SURVEY.**

“(a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, and not less frequently than once every 4 years thereafter, the Administrator shall—

“(1) conduct and complete an assessment of capital improvement needs for all projects that are eligible under section 603(c) for assistance from State water pollution control revolving funds; and

“(2) submit to Congress a report describing the results of the assessment completed under paragraph (1).

“(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the initial needs survey under subsection (a) \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended.”.

**SEC. 221. WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH ACT AMENDMENTS.**

(a) CLARIFICATION OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—Section 104(b)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “water-related phenomena” and inserting “water resources”; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”.

(b) COMPLIANCE REPORT.—Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

**“(c) GRANTS.—**

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From the sums appropriated pursuant to subsection (f), the Secretary shall make grants to each institute to be matched on a basis of no less than 1 non-Federal dollar for every 1 Federal dollar.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, the Committee on the Budget of the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives a report regarding the compliance of each funding recipient with this subsection for the immediately preceding fiscal year.”.

(c) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH PROGRAM.—Section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

**“(e) EVALUATION OF WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH PROGRAM.—**

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a careful and detailed evaluation of

each institute at least once every 5 years to determine—

“(A) the quality and relevance of the water resources research of the institute;

“(B) the effectiveness of the institute at producing measured results and applied water supply research; and

“(C) whether the effectiveness of the institute as an institution for planning, conducting, and arranging for research warrants continued support under this section.

“(2) PROHIBITION ON FURTHER SUPPORT.—If, as a result of an evaluation under paragraph (1), the Secretary determines that an institute does not qualify for further support under this section, no further grants to the institute may be provided until the qualifications of the institute are reestablished to the satisfaction of the Secretary.”.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 104(f)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(f)(1)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2007 through 2011” and inserting “fiscal years 2022 through 2025”.

(e) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS WHERE RESEARCH FOCUSED ON WATER PROBLEMS OF INTERSTATE NATURE.—Section 104(g)(1) of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)(1)) is amended in the first sentence by striking “\$6,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011” and inserting “\$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025”.

**SEC. 222. ENHANCED AQUIFER USE AND RECHARGE.**

Title I of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“SEC. 124. ENHANCED AQUIFER USE AND RECHARGE.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator shall provide funding to carry out groundwater research on enhanced aquifer use and recharge in support of sole-source aquifers, of which—

“(1) not less than 50 percent shall be used to provide 1 grant to a State, unit of local government, or Indian Tribe to carry out activities that would directly support that research; and

“(2) the remainder shall be provided to 1 appropriate research center.

“(b) COORDINATION.—As a condition of accepting funds under subsection (a), the State, unit of local government, or Indian Tribe and the appropriate research center that receive funds under that subsection shall establish a formal research relationship for the purpose of coordinating efforts under this section.

“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of Executive Calendar No. 65, Cynthia Minette Marten, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**TRIBUTE TO KAITLIN FAHEY**

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, first it was 5 minutes. Then it was 10.

Then, 15. I had no idea where she was, and, at the time, barely even knew who she was. All I knew was that on her first day, as not just a volunteer but a full-time employee, our latest hire was ridiculously late to pick me up to drive me to the next campaign stop. Not a great look for her first task on the job.

Twenty minutes passed. Then, 25. Then, 30. She still wasn't there.

Her name was Kaitlin "Something," I remembered. Well, whenever Kaitlin "Something" deigned to show up—if Kaitlin "Something" deigned to show up at all—she would get a lesson in working for a former military officer who believed in the sanctity of clocking in at 0855 hours if your commanding officer told you to report at 0900 hours.

Thirty-five minutes went by. Then, 40.

It was only after 45 minutes had passed that I saw her car coming around the bend. And while I could not have noted at the time, Kaitlin "Something" was about to become one of the most important people in my life. But on that day, she made me miss an event because we were too late.

In the 15 years since that day that she showed up so incredibly late, Kaitlin Fahey has gone from being an intern to being in charge of interns, to, well, being in charge of me as my scheduler and then as my chief of staff.

She has become a trusted political adviser, a confidant, a close friend, and an honorary member of my family—someone I knew I could turn to for a gut check and for the most brutally honest advice, the person who can both calm me down and rev me up and who can switch between the two on a dime.

From greasy fast food stops along campaign routes to the hallowed halls of the Capitol Building that I am speaking in today, Kaitlin has never left my corner. She has always pushed for what was good and right, for what was best not just for me but for the people I represented—never, ever accepting the word "no" when a "yes" might be better to help even one family in one far-flung town of our home State of Illinois.

Day after day, year after year, in role after role, she worked tirelessly, not on my behalf but on behalf of every Illinoisan, every American, proving along the way that you don't need to wear a nation's uniform to serve our country; that you can serve America without ever going to basic training or picking up a rifle; that you can serve America, and change her forever and for the better, simply by caring deeply and working tirelessly to make tomorrow a little bit better, a little fairer than today.

There are a million stories I could tell about the work that Kaitlin has done and all that she has accomplished, but I will hold myself to just one: when she helped change Senate rules to allow babies onto the floor for votes so that new parents could fulfill their duties to both their children and the Constitution, showing moms and dads in

every pocket of this country that they shouldn't need to choose between having jobs and having kids.

You can see why I call her "The Hammer" and why she is one of the only people in the world who scares the living daylights out of me, but in the best way possible. And you can also see why I have been so lucky to have her in my corner all these years, to have her as a partner in office pranks, and to have her as a sister, who I could count on to simply sit in silence on the other end of the phone and cry with me after my miscarriage.

This month was Kaitlin's last as my chief of staff. So, today, I just want to say thank you to her.

Thank you to Kaitlin's wonderful family also—Scott, Ronan, and Brenna—for lending us your wife and your mom.

And thank you, Kaitlin, for every moment of the last 15 years. Thank you for imparting your humor and for humoring me, for showing that warmth and strength can be one in the same, for not quitting when I tried to get you to wear a wedding dress made out of camouflage material, or when I got the office to take part in "Talk like a Pirate Day" and do every memo in "Pirate." Thank you for being the kind of person who would jump out of a car and run out into the middle of the street to help save a lost dog—which she actually just did this past election day.

Thank you for keeping me in line and for building our team from the ground up, running our office—first in the House and then in the Senate—with grace, precision, and brilliance; prioritizing empathy and compassion, common sense, and common decency; wearing a million hats all at once yet always making sure our staff felt valued, heard, and ever able to serve the people of Illinois. Thank you for being my "Hammer."

I don't thank you for not letting me get a Margarita machine for the office, however. But I also thank you for being my friend, for showing up to drive me in your car that day, albeit 45 minutes late. You were worth waiting for every one of those minutes. I love you.

I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, I have had the privilege to represent the great State of Oklahoma and the people of Oklahoma, to be able to sit in multiple Presidential addresses in the House of Representatives Chamber.

At that joint address that happened last night, I didn't have the privilege to actually get a chance to sit in on. As, clearly, anyone who watched the speech saw that there were 200 people in a room designed for 1,600 people, with the spacing and all of the things that were happening there. In some ways it seemed normal, and some ways it seemed ridiculous with the room of

200 vaccinated people all spaced out. But that is a different story for a different moment.

For that speech last night, as I listened, I thought about the other speeches that I have listened to as well. Many of these speeches are similar. The President comes and casts a vision. Says these are things that they want to be able to do, talk through different programs, talk through different tax issues, talk through where we are as a country, cast a vision. I get all of those things.

Last night, and every night, when one of those speeches occurs, there is usually something unique or different about the speech. It is a little different direction for where they want to go. Not all those programs will get implemented. I had people already contacting my office, panicked in some ways, saying: Are all those things going to be done? And I can smile at them and say: No, all those things won't be done, because it never is. It is a vision that is cast by the President that they have to convince the American people and Congress to be able to engage with as well.

But last night was epic in the sense of spending. I was even surprised at the amount that we are talking about at this point, and it seems to be just so flippant and normal at this point.

When you do the math of what just happened with the American Rescue Plan, that was just under \$2 trillion of spending. Last night, one of the proposals was also about \$2 trillion, and another one was about \$2.5 trillion. So take those together—just over \$6 trillion in proposed and spent government debt just in those three recommended.

What people aren't adding to this is that starting in June, in July, it is appropriations time. Our best understanding—we haven't received the budget from the White House yet—is that proposal will be about \$4.5 trillion. So adding together what happened in the first 100 days and what is about to happen in the next 100 days that we already see coming, is a proposal to spend, this year, \$11 trillion—\$11 trillion. That far exceeds what was even spent during the pandemic time period, when we all determined that this is a rainy day that we definitely need to be able to help stabilize our economy—\$11 trillion.

The size of government, the number of times that I heard, "If there is a problem, government here in Washington, DC, can solve it"—it was epic.

Now, initially, at the beginning of the speech, there was a lot of talk about COVID, as well there should be. Our Nation is coming through this. But I was surprised how little conversation there was about the vaccines and the process, Operation Warp Speed, and the partnership between government and private industry that was done last year to be able to bring all these vaccines to place.